
Tribal History Shared History: Essential Understandings

— Dr. Angie Morrill —

Introduction

Born in Portland, my mother's family moved from Chiloquin, OR to Portland during WWII

Klamath Tribes were terminated as well as 63 Western Oregon Tribes in 1950s

Tribes were restored eventually but not as they were



What is Beaver Nation?

Students from all over the world

Native students are one half of a percent of students however we can be hidden in plain sight

Although the essential understandings refer to the Nine Federally Recognized tribes of Oregon, every Indigenous student deserves to be recognized



Breakout #1

How do you know what you know about Native people?

Your answers may include your own research, books and movies, personal history, proximity, news stories, art or artifacts.

Introduction

Why are there Essential Understandings?

Essential Understandings

Since Time Immemorial

Before contact with Europeans

Confirmed with creation stories

No land bridge theory



Sovereignty

Tribes have government to government relationships with the federal government, the states and counties and other organizations like Oregon State University

Tribes exercise self-governance not because of a majority vote, though the constitution recognizes sovereignty, but because we have been sovereign



History

Our histories are complicated. So SB 13 made sure that resources were available for tribes to create their own curriculum.

[Tribal History Curriculum Grand
Ronde](#)



Tribal Government

Many different types of government, but most formed after 1934 Indian Reorganization Act. Tribal Governments provide a lot of different services, provide jobs, but all operate differently and are affected by white supremacy, heteronormativity and other aspects of settler colonialism.

It is critical to our health to indigenize tribal governments.



Identity

We have political identities through our tribal governments relationship with the federal government

Blood Quantum

Enrollment & Citizenship

Termination

Stereotypes

You can't tell by looking



#6 Lifeways

It's hard to be away from home. Lifeways means the beliefs and practices of your students, which will vary. Some people have strong ties to land, to a spiritual practice and to ceremonies. They have obligations and sometimes may need to go home even though the term is not finished.



#7 Language

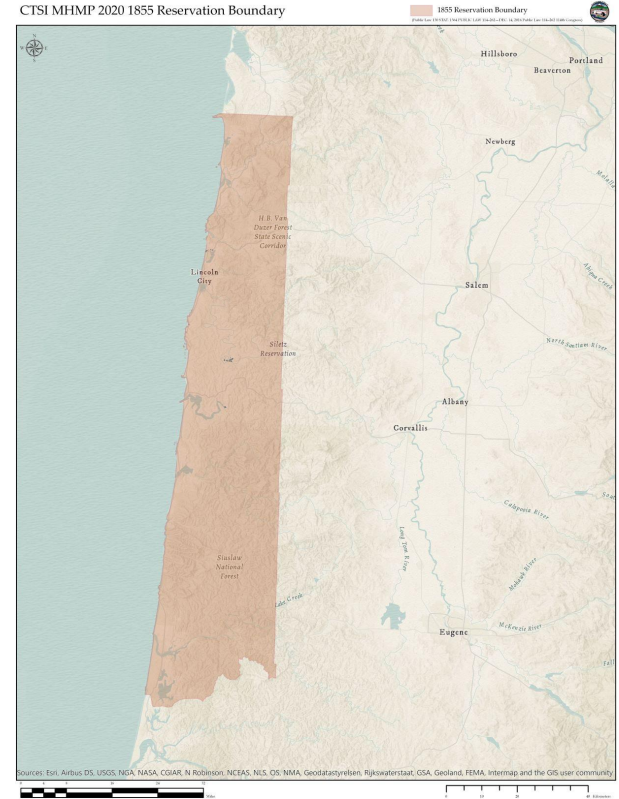
Language reflects worldviews and ways of being. Many of our ancestors lost their languages in boarding schools. My great-uncle told my mom how he was beaten when he spoke, and how they would hide to try to speak to each other.

Now there are language bowls in Eastern Oregon, there are certificates for trained instructors so students do not have to learn “foreign languages”



#8 Treaties

These were documents that were meant to dispossess Indigenous people of their lands and resources.



#9 Genocide, Federal Policy and Laws

Genocide - yes according to United Nations

Doctrine of Discovery, Manifest Destiny,
Assimilation and Allotment,
Termination and Relocation

How are Natives affected by laws like ICWA?



Breakout #2

Which of the essential understandings were you familiar with? Are there any that are news to you?

Is there an essential understanding that you struggle with, or may be difficult to accept?

Just for fun

WATER:NFS

Natalie Ball with collaborator Annelia Hillman pue-leek-la'



Breakout #3

Are there any changes you might bring to the classroom based on what we discussed here today? If so what support would you need?